

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 02279 040011Z

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5039

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2279

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, EGEN, EC

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO GOE ON TIMING OF TRA AMENDMENT

REFS: A) STATE 72235

B) CARACAS 2938

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR BREWSTER

1. IN THE COURSE OF PREPARING FOR MY APPOINTMENT TOMORROW AFTERNOON (APRIL 4TH) WITH FOREIGN MINISTER LUCIO PAREDES, I HAVE NOTICED WHAT APPEARS TO BE SOMETHING OF AN ASSURANCE GIVEN BY YOU TO PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ IN CARACAS ON MARCH 15TH, TO THE EFFECT THAT THE US TRADE REFORM ACT REVISIONS AFFECTING ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA WOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE OASGA.

2. THE APPROPRIATE STATEMENT IS IN PARA 2 OF CARACAS 2938. ASKED ABOUT REVISION OF THE OPEC PROVISION IN THE TRA, "I RESPONDED...SAYING THAT WE WERE HOPEFUL THAT AN OPEC SOLUTION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SOON. PEREZ HAD NOT BEEN IMPRESSED WITH MY EARLIER ASSURANCES, BUT RODRIGUEZ CERTAINLY WAS. HE PARTICULARLY ASKED WHETHER WE THOUGHT THE SOLUTION COULD BE IN HAND PRIOR TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I SAID YES. HE SAID THAT WOULD BE A VERY IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT."

3. I INTEND TO GO COVER ALL THE POINTS MENTIONED REF A, AND WILL OF COURSE DO MY BEST TO POINT OUT TO LUCIO PAREDES THE COMPLICATIONS OF OUR LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES.

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AT THE SAME TIME, I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT PAREDES HAS

ALMOST CERTAINLY BEEN TOLD BY PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ OF YOUR CONVERSATION WITH HIM IN CARACAS, AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE ECUADOREANS WILL REPLY WITH INJURED INNOCENCE, "WE WERE SIMPLY BASING OUR REMAKRS, WHICH YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, HAVE DESCRIBED AS 'EXTREME', UPON WHAT WE WERE TOLD BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS IN CARACAS."

4. IF THIS IS THE CASE, I SHALL PUNT.
BREWSTER

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